Established Leaders in Proton Therapy

The Scripps Proton Therapy Center is home to a highly accomplished team of doctors, physicists and therapists. Here’s a snapshot of the center’s key leaders, who collectively offer patients more than 90 years of proton therapy experience.

Carl Rossi, M.D.
*Medical Director*
Dr. Rossi is among the nation’s foremost experts in proton therapy. Before joining Scripps, he spent more than 20 years as chief of genito-urinary and lymphoma radiation oncology services at Loma Linda University Medical Center in Loma Linda, Calif. There, he treated more than 9,000 prostate cancer patients with proton therapy, more than any other physician in the world for that tumor site. Dr. Rossi has also taught, researched and written extensively about proton therapy. At Scripps, Dr. Rossi is responsible for oversight of the proton center’s technical and clinical operations.

Andrew Chang, M.D.
*Chief of Pediatric Therapy*
Dr. Chang brings more than a decade of experience treating pediatric patients with proton therapy. He developed the pediatric oncology program at the Hampton University Proton Therapy Institute in Hampton, Va., and oversaw the pediatric radiation program at ProCure Proton Therapy Center in Oklahoma City, Okla. Prior to that, he served as director of pediatric radiation oncology at the Indiana University Health Proton Therapy Center in Bloomington, Ind. At Scripps, Dr. Chang is responsible for pediatric patient consultations, treatment planning and treatment management.

Huan Giap, M.D., Ph.D.
*Chief of Adult Breast, Gastrointestinal and Lung Therapy*
Dr. Giap has more than 10 years of experience as a radiation oncologist with Scripps Clinic in San Diego, Calif. and at Loma Linda University Medical Center, where he treated hundreds of patients with proton therapy. He is editor-in-chief of the International Journal of Medical Physics, Clinical Engineering and Radiation Oncology and is associate editor-in-chief of the journal Translational Cancer Research. Dr. Giap’s clinical responsibilities at Scripps include patient consultations, treatment planning and treatment management for adult patients in his specialties.

Ryan Grover, M.D.
*Chief of Adult Head and Neck, Central Nervous System, Sarcoma and Gynecologic Therapy*
Before joining Scripps, Dr. Grover was chief of head and neck radiation oncology at Loma Linda University Medical Center, where he was also an assistant professor of radiation oncology. He has more than a decade of experience treating patients with proton therapy. At Scripps, Dr. Grover’s clinical responsibilities include patient consultations, treatment planning and treatment management for adult patients in his specialties.

Pictured from left: Drs. Carl Rossi, Huan Giap, Andrew Chang and Ryan Grover.

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Lei Dong, Ph.D.
Chief Medical Physicist
With more than a decade of proton experience, Dr. Dong has spent most of his career at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas. He served as professor and deputy chair of MD Anderson’s department of radiation physics and was director of advanced technology applications. Dr. Dong played a key role in the clinical deployment of proton therapy at MD Anderson and has extensive knowledge of “pencil-beam scanning” technology. At Scripps, Dr. Dong is responsible for treatment planning, quality control and safety programs at the center.

Anthony Mascia, Ph.D.
Supervising Medical Physicist
Dr. Mascia brings 10 years of proton experience to Scripps. He played a key role in the commissioning and operation of two proton facilities: the Indiana University Health Proton Therapy Center in Bloomington, Ind., and the ProCure Proton Therapy Center in Oklahoma City, Okla. His career accomplishments include leadership in commissioning and optimizing the first clinical uniform scanning system in the world.

Annelise Giebeler, Ph.D.
Medical Physicist
Dr. Giebeler has more than 11 years of expertise in proton dosimetry treatment planning. She worked as a medical dosimetrist at Loma Linda University Medical Center’s proton center and later joined the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center to prepare for the opening of its proton treatment facility. She offers expertise in optimized treatment planning, clinical trial design and uncertainty analysis.

Franko Piskulich
Medical Physicist
Franko Piskulich spent eight years at Loma Linda University Medical Center’s proton facility, where he was responsible for technology quality assurance and specific patient dose verification. He was among the physicists approved for machine output adjustment by the California Department of Public Health. As a mentor at Loma Linda, he taught radiation oncologist residents on topics including proton therapy, conventional radiation therapy and brachytherapy.

Richard Lepage
Supervising Medical Physicist
Richard Lepage has extensive experience as a medical physicist, both with Scripps Clinic and at other health care facilities. He is board-certified by the American Board of Radiology in three areas: radiation oncology physics; diagnostic radiology physics; and nuclear medicine physics. At Scripps, he develops optimized workflow for proton therapy and manages treatment planning activities and oncology information systems.

Lauren Mascia
Lead Radiation Therapist
Lauren Mascia has seven years of experience as a radiation therapist specializing in proton therapy. Before joining Scripps, she worked at Indiana University Health Proton Therapy Center in Bloomington, Indiana and ProCure Proton Therapy Center in Oklahoma City, Okla.

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